



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES

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Virginia's Child Support Collections Top \$561 Million

Richmond – Virginia Department of Social Services (VDSS) Commissioner Anthony Conyers Jr. today announced that child support collections in the state have once again reached record levels – climbing to \$561 million for the fiscal year ending June 30.

"When both parents contribute financially and emotionally to a child's well being, the children have the best opportunity to grow up healthy and productive," Conyers said. "The goal of our child support enforcement program is to assure the financial support of children when parents live separately. Additional, when parents contribute financially, they are more likely to contribute emotionally. The child is the beneficiary."

The record \$561 million in collections is a 5 percent increase over last fiscal year. This one-half billion dollar collection figure represents a tripling of collections over a decade ago.

One-quarter of the children in Virginia benefit from child support collections efforts.

"We applaud parents who provide their children with the love and financial support needed to grow into responsible, contributing adults. We encourage other parents who owe child support to follow in their footsteps. Their children will thank them for their involvement in their lives," said VDSS Division of Child Support Enforcement (DCSE) Director Nick Young.

Young also commended financial institutions and employers who assist in child support collection efforts. He said their cooperation and partnership are essential to collection efforts.

In addition to collecting support, VDSS has a variety of programs to strengthen families and promote responsible parenthood.

DCSE provides services to custodial and non-custodial parents at 21 locations throughout Virginia. Parents and non-custodial parents may access their case information on the agency's Web site, which provides updated case and payment information 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

For more information on Virginia's child support enforcement program, visit <http://www.dss.state.va.us/family/dcse.html>